

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1 and add new Claims 28 and 29 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A laminating method for forming a laminated layer in the form of a transparent film on a surface of an image on a printed object, comprising the steps of:

transferring a laminate having a laminated layer and a heat resistive base material layer to the surface of the printed object for laminating to form a laminated printed object;

a rear edge peeling step of peeling off the heat resistive base material layer from a rear edge portion of the laminated printed object by exerting an active force on the rear edge of the laminated printed object ~~in the carrying direction; and~~

a front edge peeling step of peeling off the heat resistive base material ~~layer from the~~ a front edge portion of the printed object; ~~and on which the laminated layer is transferred, sequentially from a front edge portion to the rear edge portion in the carrying direction of the printed object,~~

a finishing step of peeling off the heat resistive base material between the front edge and the rear edge of the laminated printed object,

~~wherein~~ wherein said finishing step is performed after said ~~when the~~ rear edge peeling step and said front edge peeling step is ended ~~the heat resistive base material~~

~~layer is not peeled from the laminated printed object at a portion between the front edge and the rear edge of the laminated printed object.~~

Claims 2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) A laminating method according to Claim 1, wherein a portion of the laminate transferred to the printed object is deformed to peel off the printed object by a difference in deformation caused by a different firmness of the laminate and the printed object.

6. (Previously Presented) A laminating method according to Claim 1, wherein the laminate is provided as a continuous sheet, and the printed object is supplied as a cut sheet to a specific portion of the continuous sheet.

Claims 7-27. (Cancelled).

28. (New) A laminating method according to claim 1, wherein said rear edge peeling step is performed after said front edge peeling step.

29. (New) A laminating method according to claim 1, wherein said front edge peeling step is performed after said rear edge peeling step.